

REMARKS

Claim 1 has been amended. Claim 14 has been allowed. Claims 2-7 have been cancelled. Thus, claims 1 and 8-14 remain pending in the above-referenced application. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1, 8, and 11-13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,406,275 to Hassett et al. ("Hassett"). Applicant has amended claim 1 to recite that no portion of at least one of the non-intersecting antenna patterns overlaps a portion of another of the non-intersecting antenna patterns. Hassett shows a plurality of transmitters 18, 20, 22 that transmit the same antenna pattern. Figure 2 shows antenna patterns of Figure 1 as including a central lobe and at least two lateral lobes that are angled at 25 degrees with respect to the main lobe. Column 4, lines 45-48. The angled lobes are shown as well in Figure 1: the angled lobes are for each antenna pattern that portion which overlaps the angled lobes of an adjacent pattern. For instance, the right angled lobe from the transmitter 18 overlaps the left angled lobe from the transmitter 20. This overlap occurs for all antenna patterns in Figure 1. The claimed invention, in contrast, excludes such overlap from occurring for at least one antenna pattern. According to claim 1, at least one antenna pattern must not overlap any other antenna pattern. This is not the case in Hassett because Figure 1 shows that all three antenna patterns overlap one another via their angled lobes over the toll barrier between lanes.

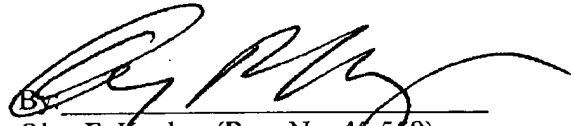
Therefore, in view of this discussion, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 8, and 11-13 is respectfully requested.

Claims 9 and 10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hassett in view of U.S. No. Chaco et al. ("Chaco"). Since Chaco does not overcome the deficiency noted above in Hassett, claims 9 and 10 are patentable for at least the same reasons given above.

In light of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance. All issues raised by the Examiner having been addressed, an early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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